

**REQUEST  
for  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

Application Number	10/567,687
Filing Date	February 9, 2006
First Named Inventor	Junichi HIRAI et al.
Group Art Unit	Group Art Unit 2145
Examiner Name	Examiner Ryan J. Jakovac
Attorney Docket Number	2006_0142A
Confirmation No.	2120

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a.  Previously submitted:
    - i.  Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on June 17, 2008
    - ii.  Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Enclosed:
    - i.  Amendment/Reply
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv.  Other One-Month Extension of Time
2. Miscellaneous
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees to Credit Card.
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.

**52349**

/Mark D. Pratt/  
By: 2008.07.17 10:45:58 -04'00'

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July 17, 2008

*The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.*